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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
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INFO GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
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RUEHYN/AMEMBASSY SANAA 0009

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SENSITIVE
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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EAID](#) [EFIN](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [YM](#) [AE](#)
SUBJECT: ABU DHABI PLEDGES \$650 MILLION FOR YEMEN

¶1. (SBU) On December 16, the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) announced it would provide AED 2.4 billion (USD 650 million) in assistance to Yemen, to include development projects including infrastructure, energy, water, transport and education. On December 30, ADFD Acting Director General Mohammed Saif Al Suwaidi told EconOff that the announcement includes a UAE grant pledged in London several years ago. (Note: Press reports indicate ADFD pledged AED 1.3 billion (USD 354 million) for Yemen at the 2006 London Conference. End Note.) The grant was later converted to a loan, and most recently an MOU. Al Suwaidi said the ADFD expects to fund 14 projects in Yemen. One project will develop a national identification card program, in conjunction with the UAE Ministry of Interior, modeled after the UAE national ID program. The UAE Red Crescent will receive AED 100 million (USD 27 million) from ADFD to build housing in Hadramaut.

¶2. (SBU) Comment: Given UAE officials' concern about Yemen's political, economic and security situation, the funding is not surprising and the ADFD is likely only one of several avenues for UAE support. UAE officials report additional military assistance may be funneled through the UAE armed forces. Senior MFA officials report the UAE is interested in discussing how best to coordinate humanitarian and development aid for Yemen with the United States, the UK and other partners. End Comment.

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